



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

BACCIOLI ET AL

Serial No. 09/989,132

Atty. Ref.: 3816-15

Group: 3743

Examiner: Cottingham

#8  
IDS  
AW  
1-21-04

For: TUBE PLATE FOR TUBE BUNDLES FOR CHEMICAL REACTORS  
AND HEAT EXCHANGERS IN GENERAL

\* \* \* \* \*

December 29, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**RECEIVED**  
DEC 31 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

As suggested by 37 C.F.R. 1.97, the undersigned attorney brings to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the attached copy of a European Search Report mailed March 12, 2003. Copies of the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 are enclosed. This is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no better prior art exists, or that a reference is relevant merely because cited.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

**RECEIVED**  
JAN 12 2004  
GROUP 3600

BACCIOLI ET AL  
Serial No. 09/989,132

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

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